

**Community Engagement Task Force Meeting**  
**Monday, February 6, 2017**  
**6pm-8:30pm**

*Meeting Attendance:*

*Task Force Members:* Brad Johnson, Damon Circosta, George Chapman, Joyce Fitzpatrick, ,  
Carole Meyre, Courtney Crowder, Tom Oxholm

*Absent:* Valerie Jordan and Amy Fulk

*Guests:* 9

*City Council:* 2

*City Staff:* 5

- I. **Welcome-** Damon Circosta, Task Force Chair, opened and welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided an overview of the last meeting.
- II. **Introduction of Meeting-** Chris Aycock, facilitator, briefly reviewed the meeting agenda and tasks for the meeting. A brief overview of the “six hats” was given and Chris Aycock asks the Task Force 3 questions.

Six Thinking Hats:

- **White Hat** - Objective, neutral thinking in terms of facts, numbers and information. With this thinking hat, you focus on the data available.
- **Red Hat** - Emotional, with judgments, suspicions and intuitions. 'Wearing' the red hat, you look at problems using intuition, gut reaction and emotion.
- **Black Hat** - Negative, sees risks and thinks about why something will not function. Using this hat, look cautiously and defensively at all the bad points of the decision. Try to see why it might not work
- **Yellow Hat** - Positive, optimistic, clear, effective and constructive. This hat helps you to think positively and to see all the benefits of the decision and the value in it.
- **Green Hat** - Creative, seeks alternatives. The green hat is where you can develop creative solutions to a problem. It is a freewheeling way of thinking, in which there is little criticism of ideas.
- **Blue Hat** - Or Meta hat, thinking about thinking. The blue thinker's role is to keep an overview of what thinking is necessary to scout the subject.

## Questions Asked to the Task Force:

- Where have we been?
- Where are we today?
- Where are we going?

“This meeting is centered on Red and Green hat thinking”

- III. **Task Force Conversations** – Several Task Force Members discuss how they feel about the status of the Task Force’s progress. Joyce Fitzpatrick asks about the Citizen Survey and if that information is available for public consumption. Staff responds that the Citizen Survey results have not been finalized, but will soon be made public.

There is some discussion about CAC representatives attending the Task Force meetings. George Chapman asks the group whether it is appropriate to be receiving second hand information about CAC’s. He notes that the Task Force continues to focus on CAC’s, so it may be reasonable to have some representatives at the meetings to answer questions. There are additional comments made about having a menu of Citizen Engagement processes. Moreover, several members note that the City of Raleigh Parks and Recreation Department has a standard Citizen Participation Process.

Several members also comment about a Citizen Engagement Commission. They believe that this is a discussion that is worthwhile. Courtney Crowder states that a commission could be a component of the solution; however, it is not clear at this point what an “updated” citizen engagement model looks like. Thus, there are many things that need to be figured out before a Citizen Engagement Commission discussion takes place.

Additional discussion occurs about the “blue sky” structure that the Task Force originally stated they wanted use as a foundation. After a few brief comments by the members, the conversation goes into rezonings.

What is the role of the CACs in rezonings? Should CACs vote on rezonings? What is the appropriate distance for notification? Are the CACs there to serve as advocates or advisors? Why does the Planning Commission use the CAC vote as a basis for decision-making?

Task Force Members again realize that every conversation about citizen engagement comes right back to rezonings. Several members note that they are ready to move forward and actually begin to create a structure.

## Two Conversations:

The Task Force acknowledges that there are two conversations taking place. Furthermore, it is acknowledged that these conversations need to be separated. The two conversations are: 1. Rezoning, and 2. Overall citizen engagement.

There is agreement that the topic of the next meeting will be the structure of a rezoning process that allows for more citizen engagement.

The preferred outcomes of the aforementioned process will include clarification on:

1. Notification radius
2. Education
3. Specifically delineated opportunity for dialogue between the citizens and the developer

The Task Force finally requested that the City of Raleigh Planning Department pull together a process that might meet their needs.

## **IV. Adjourn**

Next Meeting: Thursday, February, 16 from 2pm-4pm.